

Mission

As the Crossroads of the Marine Corps, Marine Corps Base, Quantico has a rich and important military history training our Marine warfighters since World War I. Prior to that, it also played a part in Civil War history as it was the site of several Confederate encampments. Civil War-era military munitions can still be found aboard MCB Quantico as well as throughout this geographic area.

From World War I through World War II, much of the small arms and artillery training was conducted on the Main side of the Base, which is located east of I-95. During World War II, additional real estate was acquired west of I-95 and munitions training was moved to the West side (Guadalcanal area) during a major expansion of the Base.

Over time, the Main side of MCB Quantico became developed on sites that were former ranges, leaving behind reminders of what these areas once were. Many, if not most, of our nation's military installations have a similar history. The Military Munitions Response Program was initiated to address these concerns at all DoD installations.

What is the Munitions Response Program (MRP)?

In 2001, Congress mandated that all DoD installations, including formerly used defense sites, make an inventory of those sites that had former range/munitions usage that are no longer used, managed, and set aside as a range. These areas typically have been turned into a different or incompatible use such as being developed with buildings, recreational trails, or are located in an area where there is no intention of it being used as a munitions range again.

Congress also mandated that these areas be investigated for the presence of Discarded Military Munitions (DMM), Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), Munitions and Explosive of Concern (MEC), and Munitions Constituents (MC, which are chemicals that are found in the munitions) to determine if they pose a risk to human health & the environment. As these sites are investigated, each site is scored based on the types of munitions found and the possible hazards they may pose. This determines how each site is prioritized for clean-up and funding. These sites and their scores are reported each year to Congress and updated as more information becomes available about them through investigation.



The MRP aboard MCB Quantico



In 2005, MCB Quantico began identifying sites that were or may have been sites of former ranges and that also have an incompatible use. The areas were initially identified based on an extensive search of archived records from numerous sources. To date, 34 Munitions Response Sites (MRSs) have been identified on the Main side of the Base and 4 MRSs have been identified on the Guadalcanal side. Much headway has been made

and MCB Quantico is currently performing site investigations at several sites using geophysical equipment (metal detectors) and collecting samples to determine the presence of munitions and munitions constituents.

The investigations and clean-ups of the MRSs are performed in accordance with the remedial processes outlined in CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act). Oversight of the remedial processes is provided using a team approach, with scientists and engineers from MCB Quantico, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Tetrach NUS. Throughout the remedial process, periodic stakeholder/community involvement sessions are held to inform the public and other interested stakeholders of the MRP work occurring aboard MCB Quantico.

Important Links

[Naval Facilities Engineering Command Munitions Response Program](#)
[Naval Facilities Engineering Command Environmental Site Cleanup](#)
[Naval Facilities Engineering Command Community Involvement](#)
[Naval Facilities Engineering Command Environmental Restoration & BRAC Guidance, Policy, and Regulations](#)
[Army Military Munitions Response Program \(MMRP\)](#)

Links to regulations:

[32 CFR 179- Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol](#)
[32 CFR 202-Restoration Advisory Boards](#)

EPA Links

[Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act \(CERCLA\) Overview](#)
[Environmental Protection Agency Munitions Response Guidelines](#)
[Environmental Protection Agency: Community 101: An Overview of the Superfund Program\(PDF File\)](#)